

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for curing a UV curable clearcoat composition, said method comprising:

providing an article having a three-dimensional surface;

applying a UV curable clearcoat composition to the article;

exposing the UV curable clearcoat composition to a first light source having a first average light intensity for a first period of time which is sufficient to cure a first portion of the UV curable clearcoat composition; and

exposing the UV curable clearcoat composition to a second diffuse light source having a second average light intensity less than the first average intensity for a second period of time which is sufficient to cure a second portion of the UV curable clearcoat composition, the first and second portions forming a substantially cured clearcoat being substantially free of shadowing effects, the first portion is above the second portion.

2. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the first portion comprises 5 to 25 percent of the UV curable clearcoat composition and the second portion comprises the remainder of the UV curable clearcoat composition.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~[[2]]~~ wherein the article is an automobile ~~the first portion is above the second portion~~.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first source comprises a xenon flash lamp.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the second source comprises a fluorescent ~~[[difuse]]~~ diffuse lighting source.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the amount of energy required to cure the first portion comprises 75-300 J/m² at 320 nm.

7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the amount of energy required to cure the second portion comprises 50-100 J/m² at 380 nm.

8. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the first portion require at least 50% of the total energy required to cure the entire clearcoat composition.

9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first period of time comprises 15-45 seconds.

10. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the second period of time comprises 10-20 minutes.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 [[9]] wherein the first average intensity comprises 0.1-100 W/m² at 260-400 nm ~~at a distance of 15 cm.~~

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 [[1]] wherein the second intensity comprises 0.01-1.0 W/m² at 300-400 nm ~~at a distance of 15 cm.~~

13. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the first light source is a discontinuous light source.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the first light source is delivered in a number of spaced apart flashes of light.

15. (currently amended) A method for curing a UV curable clearcoat composition, said method comprising:

providing an article having a three-dimensional surface;

applying a UV curable clearcoat composition to the article;

exposing the UV curable clearcoat composition to a first light source having a first average light intensity of 0.1-100 W/m² at 260-400 nm supplying 75-300 J/m² at 320 nm of energy to cure a first portion of the UV curable clearcoat composition; and

exposing the UV curable clearcoat composition to a second light source having a second average light intensity of 0.01-1.0 W/m² at 300-400 nm supplying 50-100 J/m² at 380 nm of energy to cure a second portion of the UV curable clearcoat composition, the first and second portions forming a substantially cured clearcoat being substantially free of shadowing effects.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the first portion comprises 5 to 25 percent of the UV curable clearcoat composition, the second portion comprises the remainder of the UV curable clearcoat composition, with the first portion being above the second portion.

17. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the first source comprises a xenon flash lamp.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the second source comprises a flourescent ~~[[difuse]]~~ diffuse lighting source.

19. (withdrawn) A system for curing a UV curable clearcoat composition on an article, said system comprising:

a spray unit for applying a UV curable clearcoat composition to the article;

a first light unit for exposing the UV curable clearcoat composition to a first average light source having a first average light intensity for a first period of time which is sufficient to cure a first portion of the UV curable clearcoat composition;

a second light unit for exposing the UV curable clearcoat composition to a second light source having a second average light intensity less than the first average intensity for a second period of time which is sufficient to cure a second portion of the UV curable

clearcoat composition, the first and second portions forming a substantially cured clearcoat;
and

transport unit for transporting the article through the spray unit, the first light unit, and the second light unit.

20. (withdrawn) The system of claim 19 wherein the first source comprises a xenon flash lamp, and the second source comprises a fluorescent diffuse lighting source.

21. (new) The method of claim 14, wherein the number of spaced apart flashes of light is greater than 5.

22. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the number of spaced apart flashes of light is no more than 25.

23. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein the number of spaced apart flashes is 25.

24. (new) The method of claim 14, wherein the first average light intensity comprises 0.1-8 W/m² at 260-400 nm.

25. (new) The method of claim 14, wherein the cumulative intensity of the spaced apart flashes comprises 0.1-0.3 J/m² at 260-400 nm.

26. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein the first period of time is sufficient to cure the first portion at least 85% and the second period of time is sufficient to cure the second portion at least 85%.